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Amy Jonsson
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TC 1700

Attorney Docket No.: NMTI 1002-3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application

Inventor(s): Christophe Pierrat and Michel Luc Cote

Appl. No.: 09/932,239

Confirm. No.: 4845

Filed: 17 August 2001

Title: Phase Conflict Resolution for Photolithographic Masks

Art Unit: 1756

Examiner: *Unassigned*

Customer No. 30437

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.56

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

It is requested that the information identified in this statement be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-identified application. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56. If this is a continuation, divisional or continuation-in-part application, it is understood that the Examiner will consider all information which was considered by the Office in a parent application. MPEP §609. Such information therefore is not listed herein unless it is desired that the information be printed on a patent issuing from the subject application.

Enclosed with this statement are the following:

- ✓ Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to initial the form and return it to the undersigned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.
- ✓ A copy of each cited document as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.98. Copies are not submitted of documents previously submitted by the applicant in a parent application from which benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 is claimed, 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d)(1), with an information disclosure statement submitted in the parent application which complies with the Sept. 8, 2000 or subsequent revision of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a-c). If any of the cited/submitted documents is in a foreign language, a concise explanation of relevance is provided pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)(i). For foreign language documents cited in a search report by a foreign patent office, the requirement for a

concise explanation of relevance is satisfied by the submission herewith of an English language version of the search report. MPEP §609A(3). If a written English-language translation of a non-English language document, or portion thereof, is within the possession, custody or control of, or is readily available to any individual designated in §1.56(c), a copy of the translation accompanies this statement, 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)(ii), and satisfies the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance, MPEP §609A(3).

— **PTA Statement under 37 C.F.R. §704(d).** Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

This statement should be considered because:

✓ **37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).** This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because:

- (1) It is being filed within three months of the filing date of an application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);
-- OR --
- (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage;
-- OR --
- (3) It is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits,
-- OR --
- (4) It is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114.

— **37 C.F.R. §1.97(c).** Although it may not qualify under subsection (b), this statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (c) because:

- (1) It is being filed before the mailing date of a FINAL office action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the subject application, whichever occurs first.

-- AND (check at least one of the following) --

- (1) It is accompanied by a STATEMENT as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e).
-- OR --
— (2) It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

— **37 C.F.R. §1.97(d).** Although it may not qualify under subsection (b) or (c), this statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (d) because:

- (1) It is being filed on or before payment of the issue fee;
-- AND --
- (2) It is accompanied by a STATEMENT as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e);
-- AND --
- (3) It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

Application No. 09/932,239

☒ **Fee Authorization.** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge underpayment of any additional fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0869. A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

HAYNES BEFFEL & WOLFELD LLP

Date: 28 January 2003

By: 

Mark A. Haynes, Reg. No. 30,846

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
CITATION**
PTO-1449
Atty. Docket No.

NMTI 1002-3

Serial No.

09/932,239

Applicant

PIERRAT, Christophe

Filing Date

8/17/2001

Group

1756

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	PATENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
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Date Considered: _____

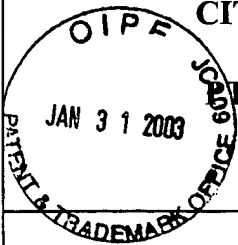
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449			Atty. Docket No. NMTI 1002-3		Serial No. 09/932,239	
			Applicant PIERRAT, Christophe		Group 1756	
			Filing Date 8/17/2001			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	PATENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
						YES
	WO 02/073312 A1	9/19/2002	WO			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

EXAMINER: _____

Date Considered: _____

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		Applicant PIERRAT, Christophe	Group 1756	
		Filing Date 8/17/2001		
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)				
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITATION			
	Cooke, M., "OPC/PSM Designs For Poly Gate Layers", European Semiconductor, Vol. 22, No. 7, pp. 57-59, July 2000.			
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